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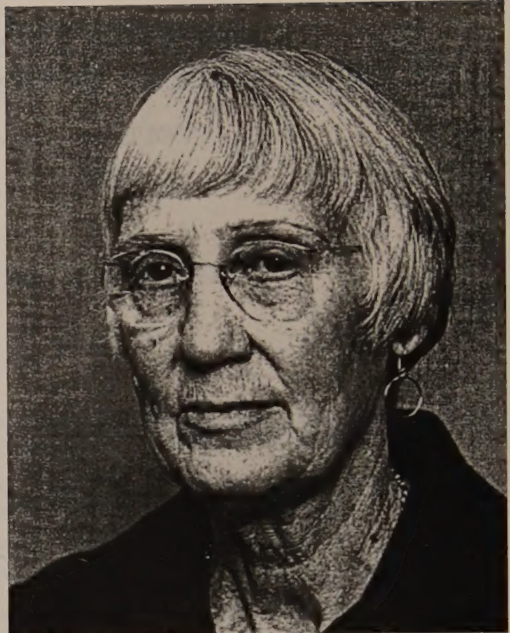
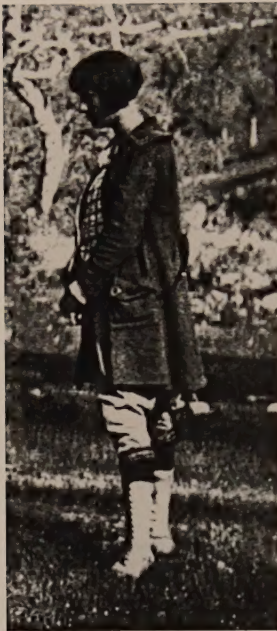
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*Editor*—ELIZABETH L. PAINTER  
% Santa Barbara Botanic Garden  
1212 Mission Canyon Road  
Santa Barbara, CA 93105

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## DEDICATION<sup>1</sup>

Lauramay Tinsley Dempster's life spanned most of the 20th century (1907–1997) and her botanical career spanned more than 6 decades and her scientific field work six continents. At her desk at the University and Jepson Herbaria is 1997 research-and-writing in progress; in the herbarium library down the hall is Lauramay Tinsley's 1927 thesis.

Most of her professional and personal life was in association with the University of California at Berkeley, where she came at sixteen as a freshman. At the University, she received her bachelor's degree in 1925 and a master's degree (with Willis Linn Jepson) in 1927. She was Jepson's research assistant for many years and a Research Associate there for the last three decades. Her husband Everett Ross Dempster received his Ph.D. and was a faculty member and department chair.

As Jepson's assistant (which lasted essentially until his death in 1946), Lauramay devoted her research, writing, and drawing talents, her laborious typing and proof-reading, to the completion of Jepson's *Flora of California*, and his other pursuits. As she herself noted, he was chary in bestowing credit, but the worth of his projects to her transcended his self-centeredness.

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<sup>1</sup> We would like to thank Richard G. Beidleman for compiling the information and Tony Morosco for composing the photographs (which are from the Jepson and UC Herbaria archives).

It was Rimo Bacigalupi, the first curator of the Jepson Herbarium, who suggested that Lauramay, now free of obligations to Jepson, initiate research on *Galium* (Rubiaceae) and its relatives. That began her innumerable field trips throughout California, often by herself, but also with family and colleagues, especially G. Ledyard Stebbins. Her field work extended beyond California—and beyond *Galium*—to Alaska, Mexico, South America, the Galapagos, Europe, Australia, Africa, and Antarctica.

She published a number of scientific papers, primarily on *Galium*, as sole author and in collaboration; she was senior author when she wrote with Stebbins. In 1979, she was the author of Volume 4 Part 2 (Rubiaceae) of Jepson's *Flora*. When the revision of *The Jepson Manual* appeared in 1993, Lauramay had authored or co-authored not only the section on her specialty, the Rubiaceae, but also five other major treatments. One-fourth of the California *Galium* species received their specific epithets from Lauramay, either alone or as senior author. And, in her nineties, she completed her treatment of *Galium* for the *Flora of North America*.

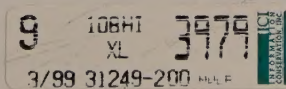
Her research was supported for many years by grants from the National Science Foundation. In 1965, she appeared in *American Men of Science*, when it was still called *American Men*. In her 'spare' time, she found time to be active in the Society of Women Geographers, University Women's Club, and American Society of Plant Taxonomists, to play the oboe, to paint a tropical forest panoramic mural across the entire south front room wall of the family home in Orinda and a wildflower mural in the bedroom.

Lauramay always regretted that she had not published her thesis on *Lepidium*. Most recently, she regretted that it became physically so difficult to get from the campus parking lot across to her haunts in the herbarium, to continue research and writing . . . and chatting with her much younger colleagues.

But all of us who have enjoyed being her colleagues feel that she should have had no regrets. Hers was indeed a long, full, and immeasurably salutary life. And she gave us science, friendship, advice, and inspiration. So, we dedicate Madroño volume 44 to Lauramay Tinsley Dempster<sup>2</sup>.

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<sup>2</sup> A more complete biography will appear in an obituary in volume 45.





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